

VIRGINIA WILDLIFE

MARCH 2004

TWO DOLLARS

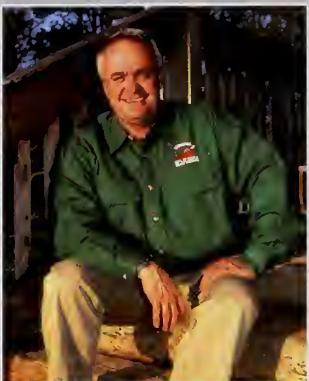


Annual Photography Contest Showcase



Director's Column

William L. Woodfin, Jr



It has been said that one picture is worth a thousand words. If that is true then this is surely one of the most informative and entertaining issues of *Virginia Wildlife* magazine ever published. It is my pleasure to introduce you to a group of remarkable people whose love of photography has helped them to take the time and have the patience to learn how to capture a moment in time, freeze it, and instill the image into our minds and imaginations forever.

In this special issue of *Virginia Wildlife* you will take a visual journey across the Commonwealth from the tidal marshes of eastern Virginia to the majestic Blue Ridge Mountains. You will look at life around your feet with amazement, soar with the birds, and focus on the world around us. The pictures that have been chosen represent the best in photographic excellence. Composition, framing, the use of light and having the ability of being at the right place at the

right time have been carefully considered in the judging of each photograph that appears in this issue. A great deal of credit should be given to the men and women whose commitment and dedication to the art of photography has helped to open a window to Virginia's wildlife and natural resources.

After spending many hours putting this special issue together, we now know why there really is no better place in the world to live than right here in the Old Dominion. It truly has a special place in the hearts and minds of all those who live or visit here. I invite you to gaze upon these images and gather a renewed appreciation of the natural world around us.

Probably one of the best known outdoor photographers in America, Ansel Adams, put it best when he said "There are always two people in every picture: the photographer and the viewer. We hope that you, the viewer, will enjoy and appreciate what you see."

Mission Statement

To manage Virginia's wildlife and inland fish to maintain optimum populations of all species to serve the needs of the Commonwealth; to provide opportunity for all to enjoy wildlife, inland fish, boating and related outdoor recreation; to promote safety for persons and property in connection with boating, hunting and fishing.

Dedicated to the Conservation of Virginia's Wildlife and Natural Resources

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2003 VIRGINIA WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST GRAND PRIZE WINNER



About the cover: Congratulations to Douglas Graham, of Bluemont, who wins the coveted grand prize; the cover of *Virginia Wildlife* magazine's First Annual Photography Contest Showcase. His striking image of Anne Hocker, of Short Hill Mountain, hunting her red-tailed hawk at the G. Richard Thompson Wildlife Management Area, really stood out as great cover material. Douglas reports that Anne, a falconer, faithfully "works with her bird every day, logging many miles finding new places to hunt..." Douglas shot this image using a Nikon D1X digital camera, a Nikkor 80-200mm, f2.8 zoom lens on a Lexar Media 256MB card.

Additional copies of the 2003 Annual Photography Contest Showcase are \$2 each. Make check payable to *Treasurer of Virginia* and mail to *Virginia Wildlife*, P.O. Box 11104, Richmond, VA 23230-1104.

VIRGINIA WILDLIFE

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Virginia Wildlife

Annual Photography Contest Showcase

by Lynda Richardson

“WOW!” “This is AWE-SOME!!” “Oh my gosh, look at this!!!” “WOW!” “This is going to be impossible....” “Holy Cow, check this one out!” “Goodness, what have we gotten ourselves into?”

What, indeed! These are just a few of the many comments heard during the judging of the 2003 *Virginia Wildlife* magazine's Annual Photography Contest. In the past, what had normally been a few hours of judging, took 16 hours of agonizing decisions and “friendly” discussion. The entries were astounding!



L to r: Lee Walker, Julia Dixon, Ron Messina, Lynda Richardson, Emily Pels, Carol Kushlak and Mel White judging contest entries.

“This is going to be impossible....”

Judging the competition this year were: editor, Lee Walker; art director, Emily Pels; and professional photographer, Lynda Richardson (me!). For assistance in tie breaking situations, the judges were assisted by *Virginia Wildlife* magazine's contributing editors, Mel White, Ron Messina, Julia Dixon, and production assistant, Carol Kushlak. Judges looked for photographs with good color and sharpness as well as great composition or creative uses of framing. A photograph might have been selected over another due to the difficulty the judges perceived at capturing one kind of situation or creature over another.

“Goodness, what have we gotten ourselves into?”

This year, we had over a 100 photographers enter over a 1,000 photographs. Regular competitors from past years as well as first timers and kids all stepped up to the lens with some great photography.

“Holy Cow, check this one out!”

The grand prize winner, Douglas Graham, was honored by having his photograph appear on the cover of the magazine. With approximately 70,000 copies printed and an average of 5 folks seeing each copy of the magazine, that's a lot of great exposure!

“This is AWESOME!!”

We would like to thank Eastman Kodak Company, who again, generously sponsored all the first place entries with a brick (20 rolls) of slide film; 10 rolls of Kodak E100G and 10 rolls of Kodak E100GX. Since kids usually prefer print film, Kodak donated five rolls of Kodak Portra 400UC to the first place winners of Kids and Cameras. We also thought the kids should be exposed to slide film so Kodak is also giving an additional five rolls of Kodak

E100 VS professional slide film for the first place winners. But wait, there's more...On top of that, each child who entered the contest will receive one roll of Portra 400UC print film simply for entering!

“Oh my gosh, look at this!!!”

Richmond Camera graciously continues to sponsor our second place winners with \$50 gift certificates toward any photofinishing services. These certificates can be used at any one of their 14 retail stores throughout the state. This is a great way for contest winners to process and print their entries for next year's competition!

“WOW!”

And, as always, *Virginia Wildlife* magazine is pleased to offer our third place winners an official *Virginia Wildlife* ball cap.

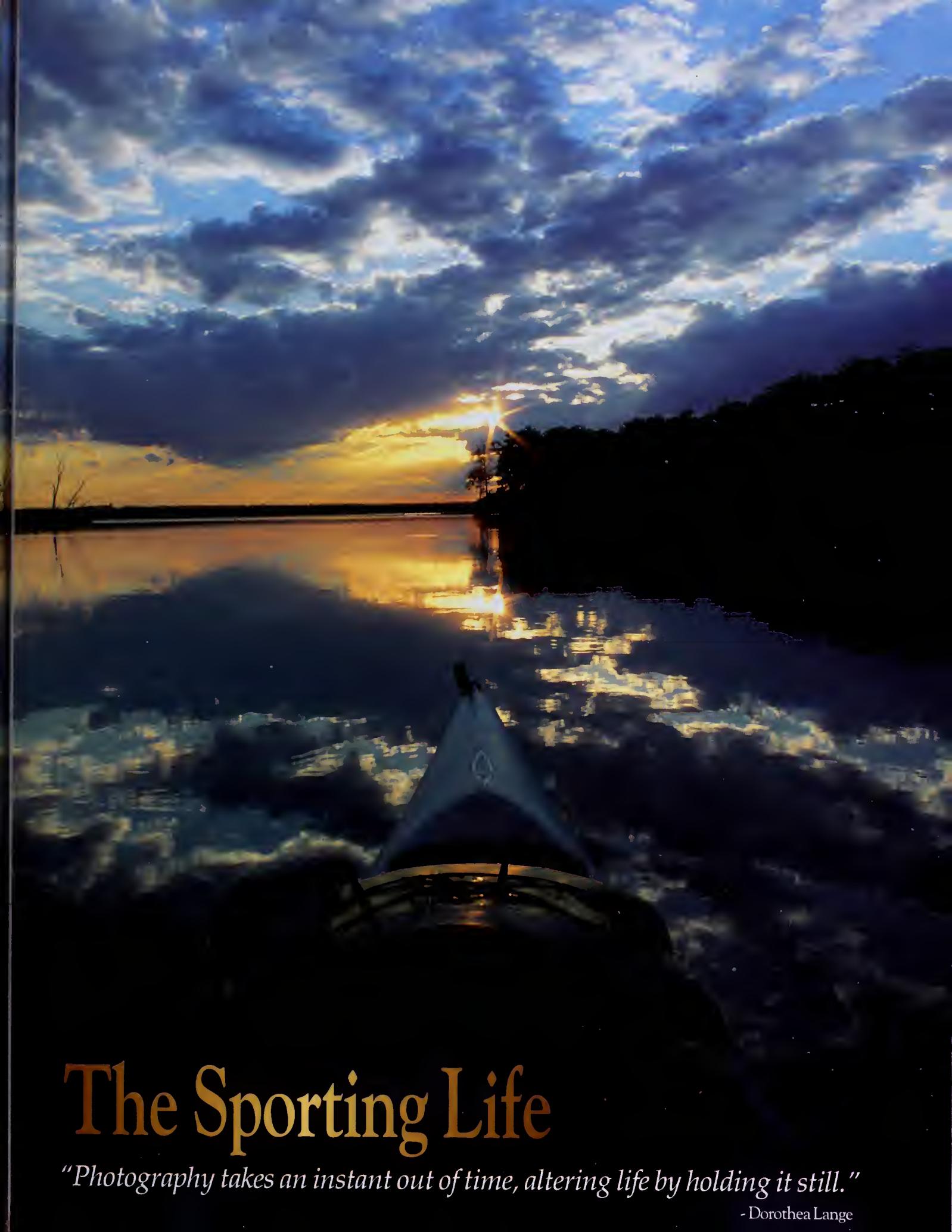
“WOW!”

All contest entrants are winners! As we return the entries, everyone will receive literature from Kodak regarding the E Family films, the much sought after Kodak Professional Reference Data guide, and *Virginia Wildlife* decals. No one is a looser!

So, pat yourselves on the back and give yourselves a big, warm, CONGRATULATIONS! This year was the best yet, and we think next year will be even better! Be sure to check out the inside back cover for information on the “2004 Special Photography Contest,” and stay tuned for the addition of more prizes! And start shooting those award-winning photographs NOW! We look forward to seeing you again next year! **“WOW!!!”** □

The Sporting Life **FIRST PLACE**

Right: **Ed Neville**, of Springfield, captures first place with his sunset image of a touring kayak sightseeing along the Potomac River at Mason Neck National Wildlife Refuge. Ed used a Canon A2E, a 24mm lens, and Fuji Provia 100F film to record this wonderful adventure.



The Sporting Life

"Photography takes an instant out of time, altering life by holding it still."

- Dorothea Lange

The Sporting Life



▲ SECOND PLACE

Above: Winning again, Douglas Graham takes second place for his quiet image of bowhunter, Kevin Wetzel, in a tree stand just after dawn near Lincoln in Loudoun County. Douglas used his trusty Nikon D1X digital camera and a 28-70mm, f2.8 zoom lens for this shot.



◀ HONORABLE MENTION

Left: Ronald Salmon, of Winchester, used a Canon A-2 camera with a Canon 28 – 135mm lens, a Tiffen circular polarizer, and a Bogen 3221 G tripod with a Gitzo G1377M Center Ball Head to capture this image of a hiker on Great North Mountain in Frederick County. It was shot on Fuji Velvia slide film.



THIRD PLACE

Above: Third place goes to Ed Neville for "Hiking Solitude," an image of a hiker pausing at a waterfall in Shenandoah National Park. Ed shot this using a Canon Elan II camera with a 20-35mm zoom lens and a polarizing filter. Fuji Velvia film captured the shot at f22 for 2 seconds.



HONORABLE MENTION

Above: Hikers tackling Old Rag is a win for Carl Albuquerque, of Yorktown, who shot this image on print film.



HONORABLE MENTION

Above: Tommy Jordan, of Seaford, photographed his son Ryan ready to have a fish removed from the hook. "Ryan loves to fish and play with the worms, but is not too keen on handling the fish." A Canon EOS Rebel G camera and a 35-80mm lens captured this image on Kodak print film.

Birds of a Feather



FIRST PLACE

Above: First place winner, Douglas Graham, noticed that bluebirds nesting in his Clarke County backyard were using a weather vane as a perch to hunt from. Thinking it would make a great shot, he used a Nikon D1X digital camera with a Nikkor 400mm, f2.8 lens, and a Lexar Media 512MB card to capture this wonderful image of the male bluebird watching for insects.

"A great photograph is a full expression of what is being photographed in the deepest sense, and a vision of what one feels about life in its entirety."



*ne feels about what
hereby, a true expres-*

- Ansel Adams



▲ SECOND PLACE

Above: Regular contest contributor and second place winner, Randy T. Streufert, of Mason Neck, shares this beautiful, close-up image of a male northern cardinal taken in his yard near Jacob's Creek on Mason Neck in southern Fairfax County. He used a Nikon F5 camera with a Nikon Micro 70-180mm, F4.5-5.6D AF ED lens, and Fuji Provia 100F slide film pushed one stop.

HONORABLE MENTION ►

Right: Titled "Friendly Owl," this image of an adult barred owl was taken just outside a neighbor's screened porch. It was photographed by Charles W. Spalding, of Williamsburg, using a Nikon D100 digital camera and a Nikon 70-200mm AF-S VR, f2.8 lens.



Birds of a Feather



THIRD PLACE ▲

Above: Another regular contest contributor, Mundy Hackett, of Monroe, wins *third place* for his striking picture of a mature bald eagle flying on the Eastern Shore. Mundy used a Canon EOS 3 camera and Tokina 400mm, f5.6 ATX lens and panned as the eagle took off from a tree. He used Fuji Provia 100F slide film.

HONORABLE ► MENTION

Right: A juvenile red-tailed hawk hangs out along the fall colored Blue Ridge Parkway near Peaks of Otter. Using a Canon EOS 3 camera and a Canon 600mm lens, George W. Gibbs, of Salem, captured this unusually colored image.



HONORABLE ▶ MENTION

Right: Mundy Hackett wins for his spotlighted, male eastern bluebird watching from a tree branch. He captured this photograph with a Canon EOS 3 camera and a Canon EF 300mm, f4.0 lens with a 1.4X Canon EF converter using Provia 100F slide film.



▼ HONORABLE MENTION

Below: Short-billed dowitchers were hunting for food at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge in Virginia, when they were photographed by Crystal Pruett, of Mechanicsville. Crystal used a Canon D10 digital camera and a Canon 600mm IS USM, F4.0 lens to get the shot.



"The bluebird carries the sky on his back."

- from Henry David Thoreau's Journal
October 26, 1853

Cold and Clammy Critters

FIRST PLACE ►

Right: Randy T. Streufert wins again with a *first place* for his newly hatched baby snapping turtle. The little critter was spotted crossing Randy's yard on the way to Jacob's Creek where Randy reports loads of snappers live. Each spring, the female snappers lay eggs in his yard and each fall the babies hatch and head for the creek. Cool! This image was shot with a Nikon F5 camera and a Nikon Micro 70-180mm, f4.5-5.6 lens on Kodak E100VS slide film.



▼ SECOND PLACE

Below: Get out the insect repellent! This poor box turtle, being attacked by mosquitoes in the Dismal Swamp, wins *second place* for Pat Cuffee, of Chesapeake. Pat shot this image using a Canon Rebel 2000 camera with a 75-300mm IS lens using Kodak 400X slide film.





*"For if one link in
nature's chain might
be lost, another might
be lost, until the whole
of things vanish by
piecemeal."*

- Thomas Jefferson

◀ HONORABLE
MENTION



Left: Marie Majarov, of Winchester, used a Canon EOS 1N camera, a 28-135mm lens, flash with a diffuser, a 500 D close up lens, and Fuji Velvia slide film to capture this image of a green frog taken under controlled conditions during a biology class at Lord Fairfax Community College. The green frog was released after the photo session.

▼ THIRD PLACE

Below: Ellen Starliper, of Winchester, captures *third place* for her image of a juvenile bullfrog taken in her backyard fish pond. She used a Canon camera and a Canon 100mm macro lens to get this shot.



Cold and Clammy Critters





◀ HONORABLE
MENTION

Left: Green tree frogs shot with an HP 850 digital camera on macro setting won for Paul Showalter, of Norfolk.



◀ HONORABLE
MENTION

Left: Regular contest contributor, Tammy Hall, of Rocky Mount, places with her image of a red eft taken in Alleghany County using a Canon Rebel X camera.



◀ HONORABLE
MENTION

Left: Mundy Hackett wins again and this time with an up-close look at a gray tree frog he photographed in Richmond using his trusty Canon EOS 3 camera.

A Bug's Life



FIRST PLACE

Left: A striking photograph of a green lynx spider eating a wasp takes *first place* for Gary W. Carter, of McLeansville, N.C. Gary captured this image at Maymont Park in Richmond using a Canon EOS 1V camera, a Canon 180mm macro lens, fill flash, and Fuji slide film.

SECOND PLACE



Right: Ellen Starliper wins again with a *second place* for her close-up look at a dragonfly. Ellen used her trusty Canon camera and a Canon 100mm macro lens to capture the shot.

"Sometimes you can tell a large story with a tiny subject."

- Eliot Porter



▲ HONORABLE MENTION

Above: Randy Streufert got eye-to-eye with this shot of a regal moth found in his backyard. Randy reports that seeing what he thought was a bird flying around the backyard late one evening instead turned out to be this moth! (Now that's a big moth!) He was able to capture this image using a Nikon F5 camera with a Nikon 105mm micro, f2.8 lens, and a Nikon SB-28 Speedlight. It was shot on Fuji Velvia slide film.



▲ HONORABLE MENTION

Above: Jodi G. Morra, of Bridgewater, used a Canon A-1 camera, a 50mm lens, and Kodak 400 print film to capture this endearing image of a home-school science project; raising a monarch butterfly caterpillar. The resulting butterfly stuck around just long enough for a family portrait.

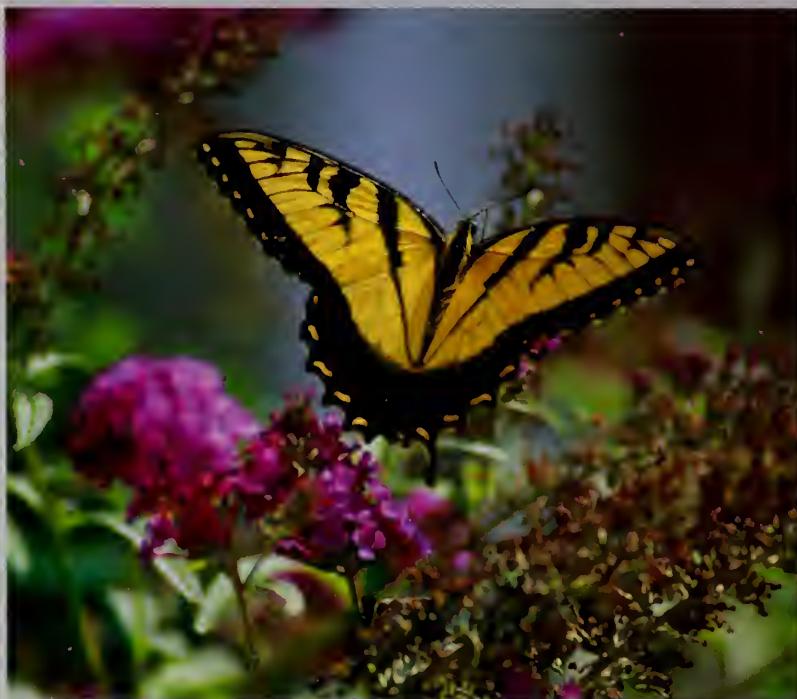
A Bug's Life

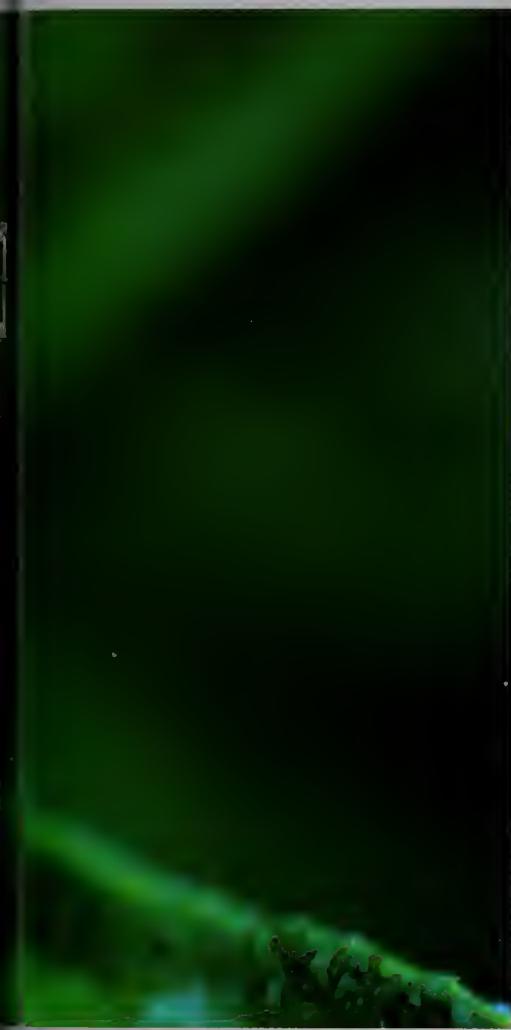
THIRD PLACE ►►

Right: A large milkweed bug on a butterfly weed placed *third* for Dennis Jordon, of Powhatan. Shot on Fuji Velvia slide film, Dennis used a Nikon N90 to capture the shot.

▼ HONORABLE MENTION

Below: Jeanne Schlesinger, of Richmond, wins for her eastern tiger swallowtail butterfly on a butterfly bush taken at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens in Richmond. She captured the moment using Fuji Velvia film, a Nikon N80 camera, with a Nikon 70-300 zoom lens.





▲ HONORABLE MENTION

Above: A praying mantis near its recently shed skin wins for David L. Bushman, of Tom's Brook. Using the new Kodak Portra 400UC print film, a Nikon N90 camera, and a Sigma 24-70mm, f2.8 lens, he was able to capture this unusual shot.

◀ HONORABLE MENTION

Left: Patti Harlow, of Orange, wins with her hummingbird moth sipping from a verbena plant. It was taken with a Canon EOS Elan II camera, a Quantaray 70-300mm macro zoom lens, and 200 speed print film.

HONORABLE ▶ MENTION

Right: A crab spider with prey wins for Mundy Hackett in this close-up look at A Bug's Life. He used a Canon EOS 3 and Fuji slide film.



Fantastic Flowers

FIRST ► PLACE

Right: Harold Jerrell, of Rose Hill, takes *first place* with his beautiful image of a large-flowered trillium he found while hiking around Love Lady Gap in Lee County. Titled "Bent Trillium," Harold shot this image using a Nikon N90 camera, a Sigma 28-105mm lens, flash, and Fuji 400 color print film.



"The joy of looking and comprehending is nature's most beautiful gift."

- Albert Einstein



▲ HONORABLE MENTION

Above: Debbie R. Miller, of Staunton, used her Canon Rebel 2000, a 28-80mm lens, and Fuji 400 speed print film to capture this sunflower blooming in her family's field.



▲ HONORABLE MENTION

Above: Jeanne Schlesinger captured this milkweed pod bursting with seed at Big Meadows in Shenandoah National Park. Jeanne used a Nikon N80 camera and a Nikon 70-300mm zoom lens with a Nikon A2 warming filter to capture this shot on Fuji Velvia film.



▲ SECOND PLACE

Above: Second place goes to Julie Connelly, of Rochelle, for her Jack-in-the-Pulpit shot backlit with evening light. Julie captured this image using a Nikon F100 camera and a 70-300mm Nikon lens with a 5T close-up lens and Fuji Velvia slide film.

Fantastic Flowers



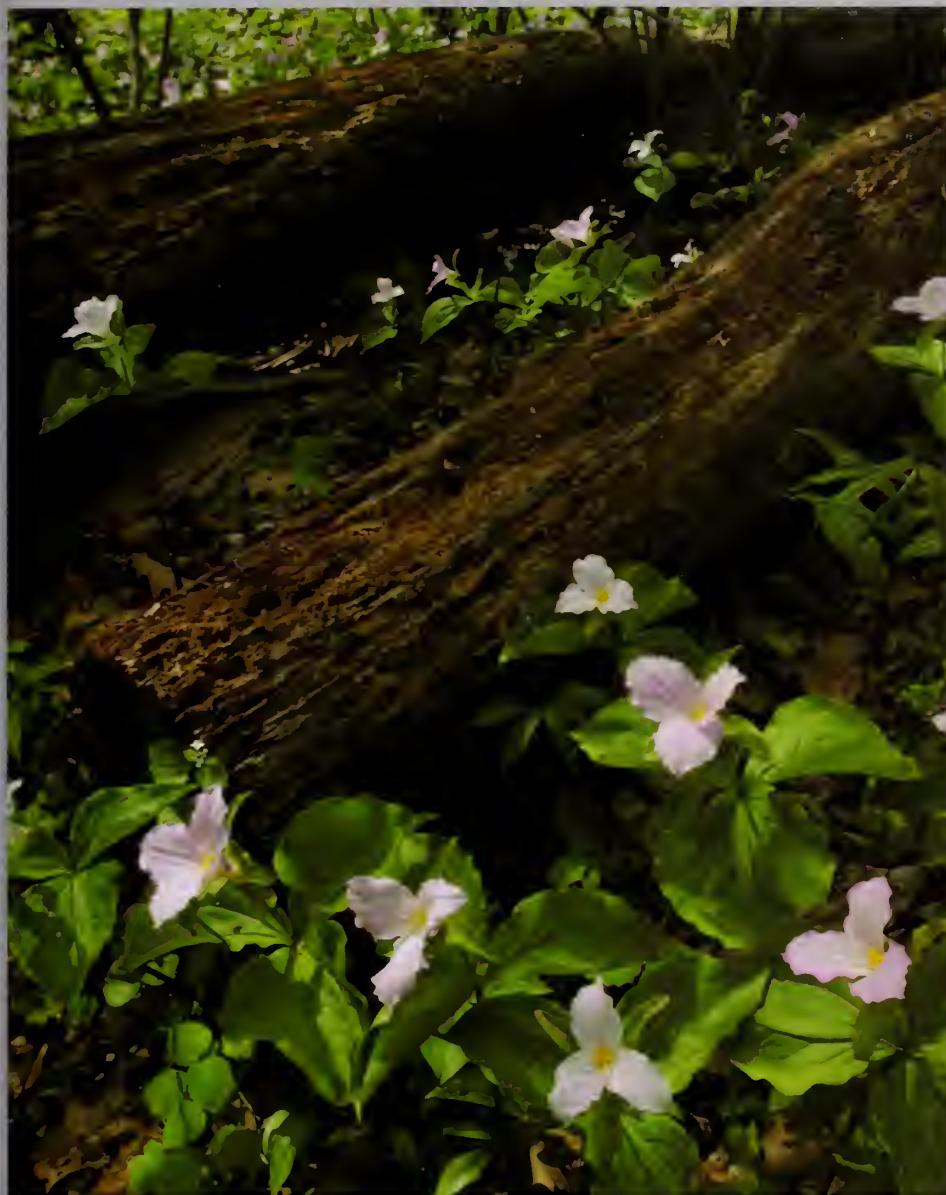
▲ THIRD PLACE

Above: Nathaniel A. White, of Hamilton, wins *third place* for his very red, backlit image of blackberry leaves. Nathaniel shot this image using a Nikon 8008 camera, a Nikon 35-105 macro lens, and Kodak E-100VS slide film.

HONORABLE ▶ MENTION

Right: Johnnie C. Stanley, of Clintwood, places with this lovely image of a double yellow lady's-slipper (2 flowers on one stem)! He was tipped off by his former 5th grade elementary school teacher as to their location and his search paid off. This image was shot with a Canon EOS 3 camera, a 100-300mm lens with 12EF extension tube, plus a 550 Speedlite using Fuji color print film.





"In the woods we return to reason and faith. There I feel that nothing can befall me in life—no disgrace, no calamity (leaving my eyes), which nature can not repair."

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

◀ HONORABLE MENTION

Left: Douglas Graham, earns an honorable mention for his image of large-flowered trillium blooming on the forest floor at G. Richard Thompson Wildlife Management Area in Fauquier County. Douglas used a Nikon D1X digital camera and an 80-300mm, f4-5.6 VR Nikkor lens with a Lexar Media 256MB card to get this shot.



◀ HONORABLE MENTION

Left: A lone pink water lily wins for Gordon Moodhe, of Woodbridge. Gordon shot this image in a pond near Marshall using a Nikon FE2 and Kodak 200 speed print film.

Scenic Seasons



FIRST PLACE



Above: Many photographs are taken in a split second with minimal thought or effort while others require a large investment of time and energy. So is the case with Douglas Graham's *first place* winner here. Douglas photographed this image of a tent lit up by candlelight at a Mount Roger's campsite one summer. To create this stunning photograph, Douglas lit a candle inside his tent and allowed it to burn for five minutes. After five minutes, he blew it out and continued the exposure for 7½ hours which created star trails in the sky above. Shot on Fuji 100 speed slide film, he used a Nikon F-5 camera and a 17-35mm, f2.8 Nikkor lens. Wow!

"People think that all cameramen do is point the camera at things, but it's a heck of a lot more complicated than that!"

-Larry in "Groundhog Day"



HONORABLE MENTION ►

Right: Winning again, Jeanne Schlesinger grabs a prize with her glowing image of marsh grasses at sunrise in Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge. She used a Nikon N80 camera, Nikon 70-300mm zoom lens, a Nikon A2 warming filter, and Fuji Velvia 50 slide film.



HONORABLE MENTION ▲

Above: Winter has been a recurring winning theme for this year's competition. Regular contest competitor, Patricia Stone, of Seaford, places with her snowy photograph taken at the Yorktown National Battlefield, part of the Colonial National Historical Park in Yorktown. She used a Canon Rebel G camera to get the shot.



Scenic Seasons

*"I think that I shall never see
a billboard lovely as a tree
perhaps unless the billboards
fall, I'll never see a tree at all."*

- Ogden Nash



SECOND PLACE

Below: Second place goes to Ed Neville for his "Barn & Sky" photographed in Madison County. Ed used a Canon Elan II camera and a 20-35mm lens with a polarizer and Fuji Velvia slide film.



◀ HONORABLE MENTION

Left: Burton Floyd, of Buena Vista, captured this quiet, farmland scene. Burton used a Nikon Coolpix 5700 digital camera.



"Nature gives to every time and season some beauties of its own."

- Charles Dickens

◀ HONORABLE MENTION

Left: Another multi-winner, Mundy Hackett, places with his "Hillside Tree" taken in the Clinch Valley. His trusty Canon EOS 3 camera caught the shot.



◀ HONORABLE MENTION

Left: John Altman, of Orange, spotted a winner in this lovely maple tree titled, "The Perfect Tree." He used a Canon EOS 7 camera, a 28-135mm IS lens, and Fujicolor Superia 400 speed print film to capture what, indeed, is a perfect tree!





Scenic Seasons



▲ HONORABLE MENTION

Above: An unusually snowy day in April at Mabry Mill, on the Blue Ridge Parkway, wins for multi-winner George Gibbs. Using a Nikon N-80 and a Tamaron 28-300mm zoom lens, he was able to capture this quiet scene.

▲ THIRD PLACE

Above: David Bushman wins with a *third place* for a winter scenic taken from his backyard looking towards Little North Mountain. A winter storm had just dusted the trees with snow. David used a Nikon N90 camera, a Tokina 100-300mm, f4.0 lens, and Kodak E100VS slide film.

Marvelous Mammals

FIRST PLACE ►

Right: Gary W. Carter wins another *first place* for his great photograph of the difficult to spot or to even capture on film, Delmarva fox squirrel. Gary photographed this endangered critter at Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge using a Canon EOS 1V camera, a Canon 500mm lens, and Fuji slide film.

Marvelous Mammals



Marvelous Mammals



SECOND PLACE

Above: A raccoon eating leftovers at a Shenandoah National Park campground claimed second place for multi-prize winner Douglas Graham. Douglas caught this humorous shot with his Nikon D1X, a 400mm, f2.8 lens on a Lexar Media 512 MB card.



◀ HONORABLE MENTION

Left: Marilyn Keller, of Pittsburg, KS., visited Shenandoah National Park with her husband Tony for a day of picture taking and was rewarded with many photo opportunities. When they came across this whitetail doe and fawn, Marilyn said, "My heart was pounding so hard I wasn't sure that I could hold the camera still long enough to get the picture!" She got one, a winner! She used a Minolta HTSI camera, a Promaster 100-300mm zoom lens, and Fuji 400 print film.



◀ THIRD PLACE

Left: Mundy Hackett takes *third place* with his young opossum photograph taken on Whitetop Mountain. He used a Canon EOS-3 camera body and fill flash.

HONORABLE MENTION

Below: Another winner for George W. Gibb! George reports that this Shenandoah National Park whitetail fawn came out into the meadow just after dawn to play with others in the dew covered Queen Anne's Lace. His Canon EOS 3 camera and a Canon 600mm lens camera captured this shot.



◀ HONORABLE MENTION

Left: This southern flying squirrel nailed a prize for Kim Winkler, of Poquoson. It was taken with a Minolta X-370 SLR camera, a 70mm lens, 3:1 macro with a flash. A slave flash was used to fill in light for an exposure of F4.5 at a 60th of a second. Taken in Ivor, Kim reports being amazed to discover the flying squirrels using her bird feeder at midnight, sometimes seeing as many as 10 at a time!

Kids & Cameras 6-12



FIRST PLACE



Above: Cole Burch, age 12, of Christiansburg, wins *first place* for his photograph titled, "Fishing with Family." Cole reports that "One day we went fishing with my Grandpa and my brother caught a 15-pound catfish. I ran all the way back to our house to get my camera so that I could take a picture of my brother and the catfish." Cole captured this image using a Minolta camera and print film. Way to go Cole!

There were no other winning entries in the Kids and Camera 6-12 category.



FIRST PLACE



Above: Congratulations to Logan Crable, age 16, of Richmond, who wins *first place* for a striking black and white image of a snorkeler taken during a family outing at Gwynn's Island. Logan used a digital camera and captured the shot while swimming along the jetties surrounding the island.

"Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain a

Kids & Cameras 13-18



Artist once we grow up."

- Pablo Picasso

HONORABLE MENTION

Below: Kate Burch, age 14, of Christiansburg, wins with her "Woods in Winter" photograph taken in the woods behind her Montgomery County home. Kate used a Nikon FG camera and a 70-210mm, f4.5-5.6 lens. Let's hope there is no sibling rivalry between Kate and her younger brother, Cole, who won first place in the Kids & Cameras 6-12 category!



◀ HONORABLE MENTION

Left: Christian Weber, age 13, of Glen Allen, took this photograph of an American goldfinch "early one morning as it plucked the yellow petals off and ate the seeds below." Christian used a Sony digital camera to capture the shot.

Kids & Cameras 13-18



◀ SECOND PLACE

Left: Few folks are lucky enough to see, much less photograph, wild turkeys fighting, but Lida Wise, age 14, of Fairfield, captures second place with this amazing shot.

THIRD PLACE ▼

Below: Third place goes to Schuyler Cox, age 15, of Ashland for a photograph of a black rat snake in a tree at the end of the family driveway. He reports the snake hangs out most of the spring and summer. Schuyler shot this with a Nikon N70 camera.



2004 Virginia Wildlife Photography Contest

It's time to enter your best photographs and let *Virginia Wildlife* magazine capture your images for thousands to see. Special prizes will be donated by Eastman Kodak, Richmond Camera and *Virginia Wildlife* and will be given to contest winners. And, one very talented contest winner will have their photograph featured on the cover of *Virginia Wildlife* magazine as the Grand Prize.

Categories

1. Birds of a Feather

Photographs must be of birds native to and photographed in Virginia.

2. Cold and Clammy Critters

Photographs must be of reptiles and amphibians native to Virginia.

3. A Bug's Life

Photographs must be of insects (which include butterflies), spiders, or other creepy crawlly species that one might find in Virginia.

4. Fantastic Flowers

Photographs must be of flowers, trees, grasses and shrubs that are common to Virginia, but not necessarily native to Virginia.

5. Marvelous Mammals

Photographs must be of mammals native to Virginia.

6. Scenic Seasons

Photographs will highlight the four seasons; Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall.

7. The Sporting Life

Pictures should feature hunting, fishing, boating and other outdoor recreational opportunities in Virginia. Please make sure that all activities are done in a SAFE manner (lifejackets, blaze orange, eye and hearing protection...when appropriate).

8. Kids and Cameras

This is a two-part category that encourages kids ages 6-12 and 13-18 to enter any of the above categories.

Rules:

1. The contest is open to any photographer (amateur or professional) except employees of the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries. Contest-related usage rights must be available to *Virginia Wildlife*.

2. Each photographer may enter up to five (5) slides per category. Each category

must be sleeved or placed in separate envelopes, but may be mailed together in one envelop. Please mail kids and adult entries in separate envelops.

3. All photographs submitted must have been taken in Virginia within the past five years.

4. All contest entries must be listed on a piece of paper or "Delivery Memo" with your name, address and phone number. Each entry must be individually listed on this paper stating the category in which it is entered and any details on how and where the image was taken. If possible, please indicate camera type, make, model, lens, film and settings used to take the photograph. Feel free to elaborate on any story surrounding the photograph as well. (If we have space we like to include info on how photographs were taken!)

5. Photographs may be sent in any slide/transparency format, such as 35mm, 2 1/4 or 4X5. If you don't want to send original slides, reproduction quality duplicates are acceptable. Please mark all slides to indicate if they are duplicate or originals and note this on your delivery memo. Slides should be submitted in clear plastic storage sheets for ease of handling by the judges. Also, please note the top of the photograph by writing, "TOP" on the slide mount or on the back of the print. Color and/or black and white prints up to 5x7 or larger may be submitted as well.

Please do not send prints of digital photographs downloaded from a computer unless they are of high quality. Low-end photographic color printers do not produce prints well enough for reproduction in *Virginia Wildlife*. If digital prints (4x6 or bigger) are submitted they should be printed at a professional lab. Computer generated photographs that are grainy or show pixelation cannot be accepted for judging. Do not submit photographs which have been digitally manipulated. Please include your name, address, and phone number on all slides or prints entered.

6. We prefer that all photographs taken be of wild animals or plants in the wild but will accept photographs of animals or plants taken under "controlled conditions" or in

captive situations. Shots of animals or plants in the wild are given preference over captive shots. Wild animals should not be captured for the sole purpose of photographs for this contest. If you do photograph captive or "controlled" animals this MUST be stated in the Delivery Memo.

7. A self-addressed, stamped 11" X 14" envelope (SASE) for return of your photographs must accompany all entries. The reason we require an 11 X 14 envelope is so that if your entries win, we can send you a copy of the magazine displaying your winning entry. Submissions without SASE WILL NOT be returned! If return is by Fed Ex (or other courier) please include a form already filled out with your name, address and phone number. Please do not send money, checks, or loose stamps.

8. Deadline for submissions is 5:00 p.m., December 1, 2004. All submissions, except winning entries, will be mailed back by March 31, 2005. Winning entries will appear in the March 2005 issue of *Virginia Wildlife* magazine and will be returned by May 30, 2005.

9. Mail your contest entries to: 2004 Annual Photography Contest, c/o *Virginia Wildlife* Magazine, (4010 W. Broad St.) P.O. Box 11104, Richmond, VA 23230-1104. The courier address is: 2004 Annual Photography Contest c/o *Virginia Wildlife* Magazine, 4010 W. Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23230. It is recommended that you send and return your submission by certified, registered mail, or by a courier who uses a tracking number to locate lost packages.

10. *Virginia Wildlife* staff members and well-known wildlife/environmental photographer Lynda Richardson will judge all entries. Contest judges will not be responsible for the receipt of damaged photographs or the return of photographs not accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

The *Virginia Wildlife* Annual Photography Contest is offered as a way to bring greater appreciation of Virginia's wildlife and natural resources.

**Submissions for the 2004 *Virginia Wildlife*
Annual Photography Contest
should be postmarked no later than
December 1, 2004.**

Virginia Wildlife Magazine

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